their roles as legislators and by sharing international experience in dealing with the challenges of being female parliamentarians and in establishing and running women's caucuses.

Human Rights and the Rule of Law

Canada advanced human rights abroad by enhancing the ability of citizens to realize their rights and by strengthening human rights institutions and processes, including in multilateral forums.

In 2014–2015, through Canada's support to the Human Rights Protection in Colombia initiative, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) registered 577 cases of human rights violations, which

STATISTICS CANADA: SUPPORTING ACCOUNTABLE PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

Statistics Canada's development initiatives focus on governance through support to accountable public institutions—specifically, to national statistical offices and other key components of national statistical systems in developing countries.

The vast majority of Statistics Canada ODA activities are demand-driven and ad hoc, usually taking the form of study visits where delegates from developing countries spend one to five days at Statistics Canada, improving their knowledge of statistical methods and practices or statistical organization governance. In 2014–2015, these countries included Botswana, Cabo Verde, China (Shanghai), India, Mexico and Senegal. In 2014–2015, Statistics Canada also provided technical expertise via two international workshops in the Caribbean and in Colombia.

Statistics Canada also provides support to the Partnership in Statistics for Development in the 21st Century (PARIS21), a unique initiative that aims to improve the use and production of statistics throughout the developing world. In 2014–2015, a special PARIS21 task team chaired by Statistics Canada produced new guidelines for the development of national statistical development strategies. These guidelines offer a strategic framework for medium- to long-term planning in statistical activities that can help countries respond to the statistical needs of their national development plans.

In 2014–2015, Statistics Canada also participated in the 2014 meeting of the Working Group on Labour-Market Indicators of the Statistical Conference of the Americas of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean. This meeting allowed participants to share experiences in terms of the statistical measures of labour and labour indicators, enabling progress in regional harmonization.

By strengthening the statistical capacity of developing countries, Canada is building the foundation for more evidence-based policy decisions for improved economic growth and socio-economic living conditions for women and men, boys and girls.

were referred to the Government of Colombia. In addition, with Canada's support to the OHCHR, human rights advocacy work contributed to the increased effectiveness of state reparation measures for human rights victims, ensuring their link with current peace and reconciliation processes in the departments of Cesar, Córdoba, Magdalena and Chocó.

Canada promoted respect for the rule of law and encouraged legal and judicial reforms that contribute to the establishment of independent, unbiased and accessible judicial systems and governments bound by law. Beyond these efforts, Canada also supported activities that seek to professionalize organs of government designed to uphold the law and provide effective legal oversight of police and corrections. For example, Canada has supported the Public Prosecution Service of the Palestinian Authority since 2009 by providing equipment, technical assistance and legal training, and has established specialized units on gender equality and human rights at the Office of the Attorney General and Public Prosecution Service. Canada's support has contributed to promoting a fair and effective criminal justice system that protects human rights.

PROMOTING STABILITY AND SECURITY

More than 20 countries have experienced armed conflict since 2000, and there are many others where criminal violence is common. The consequences of conflict for development are profound. Equally, without development, enduring peace is difficult to achieve.

To advance the security and stability of fragile, failing or conflict-affected states, Canada provided funding, deployed experts and contributed to the development of international norms and policies in support of the reform of security systems.

Canada participated in international efforts to assist countries reform their security system and enabled transitional justice in order to ensure accountability, serve justice and achieve reconciliation. Through these efforts, Canada contributed to the protection of vulnerable populations, signaling in particular the human rights and well-being of women and children in situations of conflict and state fragility.

In 2014-2014, Canada's stability and security programming supported security system reform, enabled transitional justice and reconciliation, and protected vulnerable populations, including women and children.

Supporting Security System Reform

Effective and accountable security institutions can make an important contribution to peace and stability. The international community is often called upon to provide assistance, particularly in the case of fragile and